

2-8-1854

## Letter to John Butler, Eliza (Smith) Butler and Matilda Smith from Margaret Smith

Margaret Smith

Rufus Smith

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Wright sends his love to the children. He said he  
 won't to see them all as he cannot he will send Erastus a  
 present. poor little Benjamin talks about I'll all the time and  
 wants to go back to Uncle John's. Flora has given a great deal  
 I wish I had time to write a dozen letters as you cannot write many  
 I would give you some to read. The Boys has to start to the  
 office so I must quit. in love with Margaret B. Smith.

Bridge Port Ct Feb 26<sup>th</sup> 1834

My dear brother and sister I have waited a long time very impatiently for a letter from you but have come to the conclusion we never shall. So I will write a few lines to let you know we still exist amongst the living we are all well except Betsyman she has a sore throat they has bin a good many children dyed this winter with a sore throat they is a great deal more sickness here than expected to find I have heard of a good many deaths since we got in the valley no one children has been some healthier than usual my health is some better but gives so much about you all and my native land I cannot gain very fast I cannot tell you much about the rest of the folks they was all well the last I heard except Lissy she has had the rheumatism very bad two or three weeks but she is better they are at Fathers as usual and have bin for some time John I would like to see you very much it would do my very soul good to see you all and talk with you I could talk so much better than I can write the children talk a great deal about you all and contrive a great many ways to get to go back Favinia you must write to them often they are very long some they have no associates here little Mary can talk so plain and sweet she implies some thing I wish you could hear her say Uncle Johnny aunt Hattilda and tell me about a chair and give her telly Tell Mary if she could see her she would be willing to swap the man for you said John Campbell and Nancy Lomas had gone to Kentucky on a visit



I want you to write to me the particulars about their visit write  
all about the Knop folks and every body else I want you to write all  
about my old home I want to know every little improvement they have  
made I want to know where the clock stands cupboard and so on I  
shall not tell you anything about the winter I will leave that for  
Mr Smith as he likes. O I better than I do he will give the truth  
we went to Lides a few weeks ago they was not at home so we went  
to Mr. Tuleys they was all well and Miss Tuleys said I must  
send her respects to you she likes Cvery much Sarah is at  
Portland they tore the blanket as they come to O and she does not  
live at home nor Monroe. Eliza I will tell you what I have bin  
a driving at this winter I have cut and made the Brys a coat  
I had to rip up Thighs cotton coat and cut all by it every body has  
to be their own Tailor here I have made six pair of pants five  
aprons five sheets three bed pills two white ones and one calico  
one dress pillow slips and tablecloths I have a great deal of sewing to  
do yet I went to the store the other day and bought nine yards of  
calico a pair of stockings for Mary one paper of pins with four  
dozen eggs the children has three dozen more they are fifty  
cents a dozen butter is five bits a pound socks one dollar a  
pair. Silda I would like to know what you are about that you cannot  
write the next time I see you I will pull your ears good tell Mary  
Jimmy I want to see them as bad as I can tell them them to  
write often and kiss little Silda for me give my love to all  
of my old neighbours especially Betty Lucas and Ellen and  
Ann P. the mail goes out today so I must come to a close  
write soon and often so good by John Eliza and Matilda  
Margaret B Smith

Bridge Port Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> 1854  
Dear Sister Matilda  
I would like to see you  
and all the rest very much we are very homesick here  
hear we do not get to go to Uncle Johns or to school  
now we have a little calf and six little pigs Pap bought  
two sheep and one of them had a lamb and it froze to  
I wish I was there I would give you a good scolding  
for not writing I want you to write every few weeks  
and tell us all of the news I want you to write  
about Tom and Touser we have a little dog its name  
is trip. Lavina I want you to write all about my  
old school mates how much they have learnt I  
want to know what Erastus and Grandville and  
little Isaac employs them selves a bout since we  
come away I often wish I was there to play with  
them but we are along long ways over hills and  
mountains from you Pap is amaking stakes to stake  
the orchard he has made two beelstecks and painted  
them with alder bark I made a yard gate the  
other day out of a bur ~~wood~~ rail I wish you  
could see little Mary she is the sweetest little girl  
in Oregon and I think the smartest good by  
Rufus. M Smith

1854



# Butler Family Letters

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Title: Letter to John, Eliza and Matilda from Margaret B. Smith (Bridge Port Oregon Territory)

Date: February 8, 1854

Transcription:

Bridgeport O T. Feb 8th 1854

Dear brother and sister

I have waited a long time very impatient for a letter from you but have come to the conclusion we never shall. so I will write a few lines to let you know we still exist among the living we are all well except Berryman he has a sore throat they has bined a good menny children dyed this winter with a sore throat they is a great deal more sickness here than expected to find I have heard of a good menny Deaths since we got in the vally our children has been some healthier than usual my health is some better but grieve so much about you all and my native land I cannot gain very fast I cannot tell you much about the rest of the folks they was all well the last I heard except Lissy she has had the rhenmatis very bad two or three weeks but she is better they are at Fathers as usial and have bin for some time Hohn I would like to see you very much it would do my very soul good to see you all and talk with you I could talk so much better than I can write the children talk a great deal about you all and contrive a great menny ways to git to go back Lavina you must write to them often they are very lonesome they have no associates here little they can talk so plain and sweete she simply some their time I wish you could hear her say Uncle Johnny aunt Hatilda and tell me to git a chair and give her tilly tell Mary if she could see her wife and Nancy Lomas had gone to Kentucky on a visit I wont you to write me the porticulars about their visit write all about the Knox folks and evrybody els I want you to write all about my old home I want to know evry little improvement they have made I wont to know where the clock stands cupboard and so on I shall not tell you everything about the winter I will leave that for Mr. Smith as he likes OT better than I do he will give the trouth we went to Lides a few weeks ago they was all well and Miss Haley said I must send her respects to you she likes O very much Sarah is at Portland they tore the blanket as they come to O and she does not live at home nor Monroe. Eliza I will tell you what I have bin a driving at this winter I have cut and made the boys a coat I had to rip up Wrights cotten coat and cut all by it evry body has to be their own Tailor here I have made six pairs of pants five aprons five sheets three bed frills two white ones and one colier one dress pollow slips and table cloths I have a great deal of sewing to do yet I

went to the store the other day and bought nine yards of colier a pair of stockings for Mary one paper of pins with four dozen eggs butter is five bits a pound socks one dollar a pair Tilda I would like to know what you are about that you cannot write the next time I see you I will pull your ears good tell Mary Jimmy I want to see them as bad as I can tell them them to write often and kiss little Feldon for me give my love to all of my old neighbors especially Betty Lucas and Ellin and Am P. the mail goys out today so I must come to a close write soon and often so good by John Eliza and Matilda

Margaret B. Smith

\*Addition to Letter\*

Wright sends his love to the children he sais he wants to see them all as he cannot he will send Erastus a present poor little Berryman talks about Ills all the time and wants to go back to Uncle Johns. Flora has grun a great deal I wish I had time to write a dozen letters as you cannot write enny I would give you some to read the Boys has to start to the office so I must quit

Margaret B. Smith

[Addition to Margaret Smith's Letter]

Bridge Port, Feb. 8th 1854

Dear Aunt Matilda

I would like to see you all the rest very much we are very lonesome hear hear we do not get to go to Uncle Johns or to school now we have a little calf and six little pigs Pap bought two sheep and one of them had a lamb and it froze to I wish I was there I would give you a good scolding for not writing I want you to write evry few weeks and tell us all of the news I want you to write about Tom and Towser. we have a little dog its name is trip. Lavina I want you to write all about my old school mates how much they have learnt I want to know what Erastus and Brandville and little Isaac imployes themselves about since we come away I often wish I was there to play with them but we are along long ways over hills and Mountains from you Pap is amaking stakes to stake the orchard he has made two bedsteds and painted them with alder bark I made a yard gate the other day out of a fur rail I wish you could see little Mary she is the sweetes little girl in Oregon and I think the smartest good by

Rufus M. Smith  
1854